

P A T E N T C L A I M S

1. Conjugate comprising
 - a. a biospecific affinity counterpart (target-seeking group) that is capable of binding to a predetermined structure, and
 - b. a peptide that
 - i. contains an amino acid sequence that is derived from a superantigen,
 - ii. has the ability to bind to a V β chain of a T cell receptor, and
 - iii. has a modified ability to bind to MHC class II antigens compared to the superantigen from which the peptide is derived,
- 15 which parts are covalently linked together.
2. The conjugate according to claim 1, characterized in that
 - a. the biospecific affinity counterpart is directed towards a cell surface structure, and that
 - 20 b. the conjugate has the ability to activate T-lymphocytes to lyse cells that exhibit the cell surface structure on their surface.
3. The conjugate according to any one of claims 1-2, 25 characterized in that the biospecific affinity counterpart is an antibody or an antigen binding fragment of an antibody.
4. The conjugate according to any one of claims 1-3, 30 characterized in that it is a fusion protein.
5. The conjugate according to any one of claims 1-4, characterized in that the peptide is a mutated superantigen.
- 35 6. The conjugate according to any one of claims 1-5,

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characterized in that the peptide is derived from a superantigen and that its ability to bind to MHC class II antigens is altered with at least 10 %.

- 5 7. The conjugate according to any one of claims 1-6,
characterized in that the superantigen is staphylococcal
enterotoxin A, B, C₁, C₂, D, or E.
- 10 8. The conjugate according to claim 7, characterized in that
the superantigen in addition may be derived from
staphylococcal enterotoxin H
- 15 9. The conjugate according to any one of claims 1-8,
characterized in that the structure against which the
biospecific affinity counterpart is directed is a structure
that is expressed on the cell surface during a disease, for
instance a cancer, a viral infection, an autoimmune disease
or a parasitic infestation.
- 20 10. A method for the lysis of mammalian cells, characterized in
that the cells are contacted with T-lymphocytes and a
conjugate according to any one of claims 2-9 in which the
biospecific affinity counterpart is directed against a
surface structure on the cells that are to be lysed, said
incubation being performed under conditions allowing for
lyse of said cells.
- 25 11. A method for selective lysis of cells (I) that are present
together with other cells (II) and that express a structure
that is preferentially occurring on those cells (I) that are
to be lysed, characterized in that the cells (I together
with II) simultaneously are contacted with a conjugate
according to any one of claims 2-9 in which the biospecific
affinity counterpart is directed towards a surface structure
on the cells (I) that are to be lysed, said contact being
performed under conditions permitting lysis.

12. A method according to claim 11, **characterized** in that the
cells (I) are associated with diseased conditions, such as a
cancer, a viral infection, a parasitic infestation, an
autoimmune disease etc.

13. A method for the treatment of a diseased condition of a
mammal, which condition means the presence of specific cells
that are associated with the condition by the expression of
a disease specific surface structure, **characterized** in that
one administers to the mammal a therapeutically effective
amount of a conjugate according to any one of claims 2-9 in
which conjugate the biospecific affinity counterpart is
directed against the disease specific structure.

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C4

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C1